



What's New – February 2006

Significant Documents

2006 Index Of Economic Freedom.

[The Heritage Foundation/Wall Street Journal annual country rankings]
Web-posted January 2006.

<http://www.heritage.org/research/features/index/downloads.cfm>

(Links to a variety of report formats.) [Full Report -- pdf format, 440 pages]

Bolivia's Crisis of Governance. [Center for Strategic and International Studies, Policy Papers on the Americas, Volume XVI, Study 3] December 2005.

http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/ppa_v16_3.pdf [pdf format, 17 pages]

Bringing Down Barriers: Regional Cooperation for Human Development and Human Security. [United Nations Development Program, Central Asia Human Development Report 2005.] Web-posted January 2006.

<http://europeandcis.undp.org/?wspc=CAHDR2005%20> [pdf format, 268 pages]

Congressional Oversight. [CRS Report for Congress, 97-936 GOV] January 3, 2006.

<http://www.fas.org/sqp/crs/misc/97-936.pdf> [pdf format, 6 pages]

Developing Iraq's Security Sector: The Coalition Provisional Authority's Experience. [RAND Corporation, Monograph Series] Web-posted January 2006.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2005/RAND_MG365.pdf [pdf format, 123 pages]

Economic Amnesia: The Case Against Oil Price Controls and Windfall Profit Taxes.

[Cato Institute, Policy Analysis No. 561] January 12, 2006.

<http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa561.pdf> [pdf format, 20 pages]

A Hundred Osamas: Islamist Threats and the Future of Counterinsurgency.

[U.S. Army War College, Strategic Studies Institute Monograph] December 2005.

<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdffiles/PUB636.pdf> [pdf format, 84 pages]

Iraqi Force Development: A Current Status Report -- July-December 2005.

[Center for Strategic and International Studies, Strategic Assessment Report] January 2006.

http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/060118_iraqforceupdate.pdf [pdf format, 121 pages]

The State of the News Media: 2005. [Columbia University, Project for Excellence in Journalism, Annual Report] Web-posted January 2006.

[Full Report - html format]

<http://www.stateofthemedias.org/2005/index.asp>

[Executive Summary - pdf format, 34 pages]

<http://www.stateofthemedias.org/2005/execsum.pdf>

U.S. Nuclear Cooperation With India: Issues for Congress.

[CRS Report for Congress, RL33016] January 3, 2006.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/59365.pdf> [pdf format, 25 pages]

U.S.-UK Relations at the Start of the 21st Century.
[U.S. Army War College, Strategic Studies Institute Monograph] January 2006.
<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?PubID=633> [pdf format, 225 pages]

Willing to Compromise: Palestinian Public Opinion and the Peace Process.
[United States Institute of Peace, Special Report 158] January 2006.
<http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr158.pdf> [pdf format, 16 pages]

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

THE INFLUENCE IMPLOSION

Cochran, John

CQ Weekly vol. 64, no. 3, January 16, 2006, pp. 174-179

Summary: The author, writing in the aftermath of the Abramoff lobbying scandal, says lawmakers on Capitol Hill will continue to value and listen to lobbyists who provide reliable, honest information. There are more than 27,000 registered lobbyists in Washington, and lawmakers and congressional staff members say the vast majority are ethical, and spend their days immersed in the serious details of policy for their clients, not high-flying socializing and deal-making. The most important lesson from the Abramoff scandal is that members of Congress should not allow lobbyists to involve them in deals that have no connection to their home districts, or to draw them into issues in which they have no longstanding interest or expertise. Cochran also adds that lawmakers and lobbyists agree that, in the wake of the Abramoff scandal, lobbying practices based largely on relationships with specific members of Congress will wane; legislators and other clients will look for lobbyists who can offer substantive knowledge rather than access or connections.

A LOOSER LOCKUP

Perlman, Ellen

Governing Vol. 19, No. 4, January 2006, pp. 37-42

Summary: Missouri's 30-year-old youth treatment program, which focuses on rehabilitation, has become a model for other states, many of which have unsuccessfully tried get-tough policies. The widespread interest in Missouri's program not only reflects the realization that rehabilitating and returning juveniles to their homes is better for the kids but also it can result in huge cost savings. One of the fundamental changes Missouri made was to separate youth services from adult corrections; otherwise, juvenile services tend to be overshadowed by the punitive nature of adult corrections. The program is designed to keep the juveniles in the community, with lower level of security, enabling them to develop dreams for themselves with a degree of freedom; the program also sees families not as the problem but as the answer, offering family therapy. Missouri's program is based on "positive peer culture," in which youths help their peers, it inculcates positive values in them. It also offers family therapy, incorporates community volunteer advocacy groups, and provides "aftercare" on the "outside" with "trackers," who help youths with issues they face upon returning to their homes and schools. The author notes that Missouri's success rates are exceptional, writing that "the Show-Me State is doing it with less money," proving that "keeping the kids in the least restrictive environment is the best use of the taxpayer dollar."

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER: ATLANTA MAYOR SHIRLEY FRANKLIN COMBINES 1960S-STYLE POPULISM WITH 21ST-CENTURY BUSINESS SAVVY

O'connell, Kim

American City & County Vol. 120, No. 13, December 2005, pp. 22-28

Summary: Shirley Franklin, the first African-American woman to lead a major Southern city (Atlanta, Georgia), came into the office on the heel of a predecessor whose term ended in

political and financial scandal and an \$82 million budget deficit. To restore public trust in city government, she instituted an ethics code for all municipal employees and reduced funding for bloated programs, while reinvesting in understaffed and underfunded areas. The author notes that "she's not afraid of telling people what they don't want to hear"; Franklin declared herself the "sewer mayor" to deal with Atlanta's century-old sewer system. Franklin's second-term agenda centers on education, eradicating homelessness, economic development, and reminding friends and foes alike that "sometimes what we need is the flexibility to give people what they need."

WHY THE CULTURE WAR IS THE WRONG WAR

Dionne, Jr., E. J.

Atlantic Monthly vol. 297, no. 1, January/February 2006, pp. 130-135

Summary: Syndicated columnist E. J. Dionne suggests positively that debates surrounding culture wars can be used to present ideal visions or fierce criticisms of the United States. Dionne, citing election exit polls, claims the country is not as polarized on important issues as journalists and political activists might contend. The real division in the nation, Dionne writes, is between those who want to have a culture war and those who don't. At election time, for example, politicians are either rallying the base or appealing to the center, preempting any real discussion of what "ails" American culture and society. Dionne says that Americans would be better off trying to find common ground by challenging the culture-war metaphor and, in the process, deflating the partisan posturing of liberals and conservatives.

ECONOMIC SECURITY AND TRADE

FREE TRADE AS A STRATEGIC INSTRUMENT IN THE WAR ON TERROR? THE 2004 US-MOROCCAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

White, Gregory

Middle East Journal vol. 59, no. 4, Autumn 2005, pp. 597-616

Summary: The author, associate professor of government at Smith College, gives a detailed analysis of U.S.-Morocco trade relations. In June 2004, he notes, the United States signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Morocco which contains an implicit security component, the result of the post-September 11 era and the war on terror. U.S. officials consider the agreement an opportunity to build strategic, economic, and political ties with a moderate, friendly regime in the Middle East that will serve, in turn, as a model for other countries. But will it work? White notes that the signing of this agreement coincides with Morocco's designation as a non-NATO ally of the United States; the FTA will undoubtedly increase the volume of trade between the two countries, create jobs, attract direct foreign investment, and encourage domestic economic reforms. However, he writes, this new U.S.-Moroccan FTA, along with Morocco's new stature in U.S. security policy, also runs a deep risk of increasing societal resentment within Morocco toward the government and, by extension, the United States.

GLOBAL TRADE AND THE COMMON GOOD

Small, Andrew

America vol. 193, no. 19, December 12, 2005, pp. 8-12

Summary: The author, a foreign policy advisor to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and a member of the Holy See's delegation to the WTO meeting in Hong Kong, notes that in his 2003 encyclical, ECCLESIA DE EUCHARISTIA, Pope John Paul II repeated the admonition of St. Paul to the early church that a Christian community should not partake of the Lord's Supper amid division towards the poor. The Hong Kong meeting in December 2005 provides such an opportunity to set global trade on the path to sustainable development, Small notes; the poor are getting poorer and the gap between rich and poor gets wider. The World Bank estimates that poor countries are losing \$200 billion annually in agricultural trade alone because of current trade rules -- but reforming global agriculture will entail a shake-up of some very entrenched special interests, including elected officials and multinational corporations.

OIL FOR WHAT? ILLICIT IRAQI OIL CONTRACTS AND THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL

Heaton, Paul

Journal of Economic Literature Vol. 19, No. 4, Fall 2005, pp. 193-206

Summary: Heaton analyzes the Oil-for-Food program, which generated USD 64 billion in revenue over its lifetime, for correlation between illicit contracts for underpriced oil and pro-Hussein votes on the Security Council, as well as other support. He says his findings demonstrate a positive association between contracts and pro-Hussein votes, and Russia, France, Turkey, Italy and China received the highest value in total contracts. Further, he states, the timing of contracts given to a number of nations strongly suggests a connection between contract receipt and Security Council membership. Individuals also received contracts which appear to be tied to support, notes Heaton. For example, a U.S. businessman who financed Scott Ritter's anti-sanctions documentary received contracts for 7 million barrels. Despite these unfortunate abuses, he writes, a significant proportion of the Oil-for-Food program revenues generated humanitarian benefits. He says future economic sanctions need to be designed to ensure similar abuses cannot occur.

GLOBAL ISSUES / INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION (GIC)

ADDING A PRICE TAG

Robertson, Lori

American Journalism Review Vol. 27, No. 6, December 2005/January 2006, pp. 52-57

Summary: The New York Times last year created a controversy when it began charging a fee for readers' online access to some of its top opinion columnists as well as to the Times' article archives. The paper was bucking the widespread presumption that web information should be free. At the same time, a number of big media companies are busily acquiring popular Internet sites, some of which the companies offer at no cost. Driving the fee controversy is a not-so-simple question: can newspaper stay in business if they give their work away? In this article, media publishers, marketing managers, and advertisers weigh in on the pros and cons of fee-based content and where it's headed. Although policies on paid content are in flux, the question inevitably will assume growing importance to media owners and readers in the future.

AFTER OIL: POWERING THE FUTURE

Parfit, Michael

National Geographic vol. 208, no. 2, August 2005, pp. 2-31

Summary: The author notes in this cover story that, as global demand for energy keeps increasing and a plateau in global oil production is expected to occur in the years to come, there will be no "silver bullet" that will solve humanity's growing energy needs. Some experts believe that "this pursuit is even more important than the war on terrorism." Parfit describes various programs to develop renewable technologies such as biomass, wind and solar, as well as conservation efforts and conventional technologies such as nuclear power and coal, as a bridge to a new "energy future" as supplies of oil begin to wane later in this century.

DELUGED

Baum, Dan

New Yorker January 9, 2006, pp. 50-63

Summary: The author provides a frank but sympathetic assessment of the New Orleans Police Department during and after Hurricane Katrina in August and September 2005. The author details notable instances of individual police officers striving to do their jobs amidst great hardships but writes that, "as an institution, the New Orleans Police Department disintegrated with the first drop of flood water." Baum then analyzes in vivid personal terms how and why this happened. While rumors of lawlessness abounded during the crisis, in truth most citizens remained calm and did their best to cope with a very bad situation. A photo gallery of New Orleans after the storm accompanies the article.

ENVIRONMENTAL TIPPING POINTS: A NEW SLANT ON STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTALISM

Marten, Gerald; Brooks, Steve; Suutari, Amanda

World Watch Vol. 18, No. 6, November/December 2005, pp. 10-14

Summary: Fishermen in the Philippines protecting reefs as fish nurseries, farmers in rural India revitalizing rainwater catch basins, and residents of New York City replacing trash-strewn lots with community gardens -- each a small change to correct a local problem. The results have been much larger -- more-sustainable environments, increased community cooperation, and brighter futures. The authors examine how these changes were tipping points that moved eco-social systems from destruction to sustainability. They demonstrate the power of community action to address ecological problems that others regard as too big, too costly, or too complicated to solve. A sidebar offers a series of questions to help find environmental tipping points.

THE INTERNET IS BROKEN

Talbot, David

Technology Review vol. 108, no. 11, December 2005/January 2006, pg. 62-69

Summary: The Internet's fundamental flaws -- its lack of security, decreased ability to accommodate new technologies, and that it is hard to manage -- cost companies billions, impede innovation, and threaten national security. It's time for a clean-slate approach, says MIT's David Clark. Nearly 1 billion people use the Internet and critical industries like banking increasingly rely on it. But the originally simple communications technology has become a complex patchwork of plugs and workarounds; it's difficult to manage and increasingly fragile. Clark says it's time to rethink the Internet's basic architecture -- to potentially start over with a new design that involves putting existing pieces together in a different way. The article describes Clark's specific recommendations for a future design. Available online at http://www.technologyreview.com/infotech/wtr_16051,258,p1.html

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

BREAKING THE PROCONSULATE: A NEW DESIGN FOR NATIONAL POWER

Thompson, Mitchell J.

Parameters Vol. 35, No. 4, Winter 2005, pp. 62-75

Summary: Lt. Col. Thompson (USA Ret.), instructor at the Defense Intelligence Agency's Joint Military Attache School, notes that the poor interagency coordination during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom and the relative success of CORDS [Civil Operations and Revolutionary Development Support], which created a single civilian authority over the entire US pacification effort in Vietnam, indicate that "nothing less than a Goldwater-Nichols act for the interagency structure will suffice to meet the challenge" of the war on terrorism. He writes that our experience in Afghanistan and Iraq shows that the barriers that prevent cooperation between military and civilian agencies are very difficult to overcome, and that the institutions need to be transformed in order to change the culture. Thompson argues that the existing geographic Combatant Commands should be redesigned into interagency organizations under civilian leadership, which he believes is essential for harnessing and projecting America's 'soft' power, "arguably the most potent weapon in [our] arsenal."

THE POLITICS OF POWER: NEW FORCES AND NEW CHALLENGES

Haas, Richard N.

Harvard International Review vol. 27, no. 2, Summer 2005, pp. 60-65

Summary: In this interview with Richard Haas, President of the Council on Foreign Relations, the politics of power is discussed. According to Haas, there are several types of power, including, military, economic, diplomatic and cultural. No matter what type of power is involved, though, it should not be confused with influence. Haas points out that the various forms of power are also interdependent; nation-states no longer have a monopoly on power. There are also many other non-state actors in the power arena today, such as, NGOs and international organizations. Haas

feels the goal of U.S. foreign policy should be to mobilize international cooperation in tackling global problems.

UNDERSTANDING MADRASAHs

Evans, Alexander

Foreign Affairs vol. 85, no. 1, January/February 2006

Summary: The author, an official with the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, notes that madrasahs, the religious schools that provide education to millions of Muslim students, have been blamed for a variety of ills in the Islamic world, and have been repeatedly stereotyped in the Western media as training camps for radicals. Evans points out that only a few dozen madrasahs in Pakistan have been found to fit this description. The vast majority of madrasahs provide a vital social service -- education and lodging, offering what is often the only path out of poverty and illiteracy for rural children, who might otherwise find themselves victims of forced labor and sex trafficking. Evans believes that Western policymakers should look on the madrasah system as an opportunity, not a threat, and that there is a low-key debate about reform taking place in many madrasahs. He argues that they "offer an important arena for public diplomacy - a chance to ensure that the Muslim leaders of tomorrow do not see the West as an enemy inherently hostile to all Muslim institutions."

U.S. SOCIETY AND VALUES

LIVING OUT HER LEGACY

Boyle, Wickham

American Legacy Woman Fall/Winter 2005, pp. 16-20

Summary: Abigail McGrath grew up during the Harlem Renaissance in an artistic family, surrounded by the likes of writer Zora Neale Hurston, playwright Langston Hughes and artist Romare Bearden. She became a showgirl in the Folies Bergere, acted in and produced plays on Broadway; later, she became a real-estate developer, and produced critically-acclaimed films, and is now writing a novel, THREE LITTLE WOMEN, based on five generations of her family. The author notes that McGrath has become a "true arts entrepreneur"; several years ago, she founded the Helene Johnson and Dorothy West Foundation for Artists in Need.

STILL DANCING TO HER OWN TUNE

Robinson-English, Tracey

Ebony February 2006, pp. 103-106

Summary: Katherine Dunham, now 96, was not only one of the greatest dancers of her day, but a social activist who constantly fought prejudice as the daughter of mixed-race parents. She was one of the first African-American students to earn a bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago. She also earned a master's degree in anthropology there. She combined Caribbean dance with classical ballet to produce a style called the "Dunham Technique". She elevated African-American dance to a highly-respected art form.

IP Publications

[Focus on: Intellectual Property Rights](#) (Posted January 2006)

Electronic Journals

Books

The world almanac and book of facts, 2006 / Edited by William A. McGeeveran. - New York, NY ; World Almanac Books, 2006.

If you have more questions, please contact the IRC at Tel: 4688082